



Contact: Bill Crabtree  
Telephone: (919) 554-6196  
Email: [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT RECEIVES NCAMES SAFETY AWARD**

### **WAKE FOREST, NC – June 5, 2006 –**

Town of Wake Forest electric utility workers make safety a number one priority every day of the year. Employee commitment to safety has earned the electric department the [North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems \(NCAMES\)](#) 2005 Safety Award.

Mike Byrd, ElectriCities Safety & Training Supervisor and NCAMES representative, presented the annual award to Mayor Vivian Jones this morning during a brief ceremony at Town Hall that was attended by every member of the [Wake Forest Electric Department](#).



Prior to the formal presentation, Byrd thanked the employees for their outstanding efforts and their dedication to getting the job done safely. Mayor Jones, Public Works Director Mike Barton, and Electric Superintendent John

Thrift echoed Byrd's comments in separate remarks.

NCAMES presents Safety Awards each year to public power cities and towns throughout North Carolina that experience zero lost work-days due to on the job accidents. Wake Forest has received the award seven out of the past nine years, most recently in 2004.

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For more information on the Town of Wake Forest, contact [Bill Crabtree](#), Communications Specialist, at (919) 554-6196.

**Photo Captions**

**Photo #1** – ElectriCities Safety & Training Supervisor and NCAMES Representative Mike Byrd presents the NCAMES Safety Award to Wake Forest Mayor Vivian Jones. Pictured left to right are Public Works Director Mike Barton, Mayor Jones, Electric Superintendent John Thrift, Byrd, and ElectriCities Safety & Training Specialist and NCAMES Representative Woodie Wilson.

**Photo #2** –The Wake Forest Electric Department. *Back row, pictured left to right:* Public Works Director Mike Barton, Jeremiah Swann, Jeremy Vargo, Tony Brogden, Jason Shambley, Chris Terrell, Scott Abbott, Harry Lemmond, Buddy Hamilton, Lonni Mahoney, Electric Superintendent John Thrift.

*Front row, left to right:* David Elliott, Tim Blomberg, Robert Riley, Ed Denton, Marshall Bean, Curtis Gay, Rob Edwards, Betty Pearce, Jim Skillman.

Not pictured: Tim Browning and Chad Champion.